

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
TAKAMOTO et al.)
Application Number: To Be Assigned)
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: A METHOD AND STORAGE SYSTEM THAT ENABLE)
SHARING FILES AMONG MULTIPLE SERVERS)

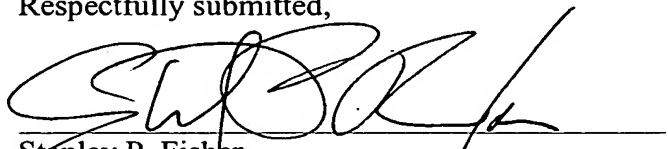
Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of September 29, 1999, the filing date of PCT/JP99/05357.

Respectfully submitted,


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January 18, 2002

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Application for
UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

Of

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NAOKI WATANABE

and

HIROAKI ODAWARA

**A METHOD AND STORAGE SYSTEM THAT
ENABLE SHARING FILES AMONG MULTIPLE SERVERS**